



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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Serial No.: 09/774,230 Group Art Unit: 2182

Filed: January 30, 2001 Examiner:

Docket No.: 199-1905 (VGT 0168 PUS)

Title: "I/O MULTIPLEXER AND PIN CONTROLLER WITH SERIAL
AND PARALLEL CAPABILITIES FOR MICROPROCESSOR
BASED ENGINE CONTROL"

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first-class mail in an envelope addressed to: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231 on:

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Signature

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Upon reviewing the above-identified application it was discovered that the paragraph indicating that the utility application claims benefit of an earlier filed provisional patent application. Therefore, please amend the specification to include that paragraph below the application title as follows:

RELATED APPLICATIONS

This application claims benefit of earlier filed provisional patent application Serial No. 60/179,250, filed January 31, 2000, entitled "I/O Multiplexer And Pin Controller With Serial And Parallel Capabilities For Microprocessor Based Engine Control."

09774230-043004

If there are any questions regarding this preliminary amendment, please feel free to contact the undersigned attorney.



Respectfully submitted,

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